

## FINAL AGENDA

### ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL

State Capitol, Room 102  
8:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Friday, May 19, 2006

**NOTE: AGENDA ITEM TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE—SOME ITEMS MAY TAKE MORE OR LESS TIME THAN IS ALLOTTED.**

8:00 a.m.      **Call to Order - Roll Call** -- Rep. Barrett, Co-Chair

8:05 a.m.      **Adoption of Minutes** -- Rep. Barrett, Co-Chair

8:10 a.m.      **Administrative Matters** -- Mr. Everts

1. Budget Update

8:20 a.m.      **Subcommittee Reports**

1. EQC Agency Oversight Subcommittee
2. EQC Study Subcommittee
3. House Bill 790 Subcommittee
4. Public comment
5. EQC discussion and action (if any)

8:45 a.m.      **Water Adjudication Process Oversight and action if necessary**

1. DNRC update on claims examination, billing, appeals and database progress, Mary Sexton, DNRC
2. Water Court update on progress, Judge Loble, Montana Water Court
3. Update on request for Attorney General Opinion, Ms. Evans
4. Public comment
5. EQC discussion and action (if any)

10:00 a.m.      **Break**

10:15 a.m.      **Water Right Ownership Updates -- Making and keeping the database current** -- Panel Discussion

Bill Gowen, Jr., Helena Abstract & Title Company; Terri McLaughlin, DNRC; Drew Ahmann, Coldwell Banker-Ahmann Brothers Realtors; Tracy Lame, Management Analyst, Department of Revenue

1. Review and discussion of staff paper -- Ms. Evans
2. Panel presentation
3. Public comment
4. EQC discussion and action (if any)

12:00 p.m.      **LUNCH**

1:00 p.m.      **Upper Clark Fork Steering Committee**

Gerald Mueller (UCFSC) and Mike McLane (DNRC)

1. Update on Steering Committee accomplishments and activities
2. Discussion of water adjudication white paper
3. Public comment
4. EQC discussion and action (if any)

- 1:30 p.m.                    **Montana TU v. DNRC, 2006 MT 72, (2006)**  
Panel Discussion: Stan Bradshaw, Trout Unlimited; Tim Hall, DNRC
1.        Montana Supreme Court Decision - surface water/ground water interaction in closed basins
  2.        Public comment
  3.        EQC discussion and action (if any)
- 2:15 p.m.                    **BREAK**
- 2:30 p.m.                    **EQC Agency Oversight Issues**
1.        Wolf Management Issues:
    - a. SB 461 issues
    - b. Montana Wolf Management Plan funding issues for Wildlife Services
    - b. Public comment
    - c. EQC discussion and action (if any)
  2.        BER Rulemaking:
    - a. Response to March 17, 2006 EQC rulemaking objection
    - b. Update on other BER rulemaking activities
    - c. Public comment
    - d. EQC discussion and action (if any)
- 4:00 p.m.                    **Public Comment** on any matter not contained in this agenda and that is within the jurisdiction of the EQC
- 4:05 p.m.                    **Other Business**
- 4:10 p.m.                    **Instructions to Staff**
- 4:15 p.m.                    **Adjourn**

*If you plan to attend this meeting and will need services or accommodations, please contact Todd Everts (406-449-2356 or [teverts@mt.gov](mailto:teverts@mt.gov)) at least 5 working days before the meeting.*

Please Note: Our website address for this interim is :

[http://www.leg.mt.gov/css/lepo/2005\\_2006/default.asp](http://www.leg.mt.gov/css/lepo/2005_2006/default.asp)